

# State of California



## Fair Political Practices Commission

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December 7, 1984

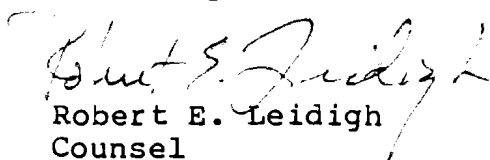
Robin B. Wakshull  
Deputy District Attorney  
County of Santa Clara  
270 Grant Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Re: Your Telephone Request for  
Analysis; Our No. A-84-300

Dear Ms. Wakshull:

Pursuant to your telephone request, we have reviewed the newspaper article regarding the actions of Morgan Hill Councilmember William H. Brown. It is our opinion that under the current wording of our regulation 2 Cal. Adm. Code Section 18700, such conduct does not violate the provisions of the Political Reform Act. However, if the proposed revisions to this regulation are adopted by the Commission at its January meeting, such conduct would be prohibited in the future. I have previously forwarded to you a copy of those proposed regulations, but I enclose another with this letter and, again, invite your comments or those of your agency.

Sincerely,

  
Robert E. Leidigh  
Counsel  
Legal Division

REL:plh  
Enclosures  
cc: Judy Davis

# W. Sacramento water plan decried

By Mike Castro  
Bee Staff Writer

Four West Sacramento community leaders are protesting the city's decision to hire an outside firm to oversee the construction of a \$19 million water project.

In a special meeting tonight, the City Council is set to award a contract worth about \$650,000 to an as yet undisclosed firm.

However, leaders of a years-long fight to convert West Sacramento's system from well water to surface water taken from the Sacramento

River met Monday with City Manager Gene Roh to protest the hiring of an outside firm.

The group was made up of Ruby Hulam, chairwoman of People for Better Water, and three former board members — George Kristoff, John Freeman and Carl Landerman — of the Community Services District, the area's previous governmental agency.

The four said they believed the Community Services District had left a contract behind that would have given the management contract to Frank Clendenen, the engi-

neer who designed the water-treatment system and who worked for years on behalf of improving water supplies for West Sacramento.

Roh could not be reached for comment Tuesday, but Mayor Mike McGowan said the city had decided to hire an outside consultant to oversee construction of the project based upon sound management principles.

City Councilman Fidel Martinez, an attorney, said Roh showed him a copy of the contract the Community Services District signed with Clendenen. That contract did not commit

the city to hire Clendenen, Martinez said.

Clendenen could not be reached for comment.

Hulam said Roh had proposed hiring the consultant because Clendenen had underestimated the cost of the water-treatment plant by \$2.8 million and wouldn't have the time to both work on the design of the plant and oversee construction of the water project.

The City Council awarded nearly \$15 million in contracts on May 6 for the water-treatment plant and the pipelines.